

## HIGHLIGHTS

Household sample survey is never an easy task. Resources such as money, manpower, commitment and cooperation of all involved are needed. A household survey in particular can be cumbersome given that a basic set of guidelines and sampling techniques must be followed precisely to maintain a minimal error level. However, human errors do happen no matter how much we tried to avoid them. Household survey performs a basic task of providing an enormous amount of aggregated data on the residents of American Samoa. These absolute numbers although may contain errors; their proportionate and percentage distributions provide reasonable measures of the composition and changes in the demographic, social and economic profile of the territory. In this report, highlights and areas where users should be cautious in making too fine an interpretation of survey data are presented.

### Size, growth and geographic distribution

The population count of American Samoa from survey data of April 1, 1995 was 52,884. The count is based on a 20 percent sample of households, counting 10,170 persons. This number is then expanded by 5.2 (overall weight for the sample) to derive at the count above. The count is lower than the mid-year population estimates published in 1995. There could be a lot of reasons for this difference. However, certain factors associated with household composition have indicated a structural change in the population of the territory. For instance, a lot more housing units were listed (over 8,900); fewer persons in household; and a continuous drop in the number of persons born in the territory in the last five years<sup>1</sup>. It could also mean an undercount in the enumeration stage.

In absolute number, the Western District has outnumbered the Eastern District (i.e. since 1900 there were more people residing in the Eastern District until 1990 and again in 1995). However, proportionate distributions were different from the 1990 distributions. The Eastern District had gained in population while the Western District's proportion has dropped. Eastern District had 45 percent of the 1990

Year	Population by Districts		
	Eastern	Western	Manu'a
1960	11,137	6,113	2,695
1970	15,955	9,018	2,112
1980	17,311	13,227	1,732
1990	21,175	23,868	1,714
1995	25,308	25,886	1,690

population; now holding 48 percent (a 3 percentile increase), while the Western District had 51 percent in 1990; now holding 49 percent (a 2 percentile drop). Manu'a remained relatively unchanged. Population growth has definitely dropped in the past few years, as indicated in the annual growth rates between censuses and the 1995 household survey. Between 1980 and 1990, the annual population growth rate registered at 3.7 percent. The annual growth rate is now at 2.5 percent between 1990 and 1995.

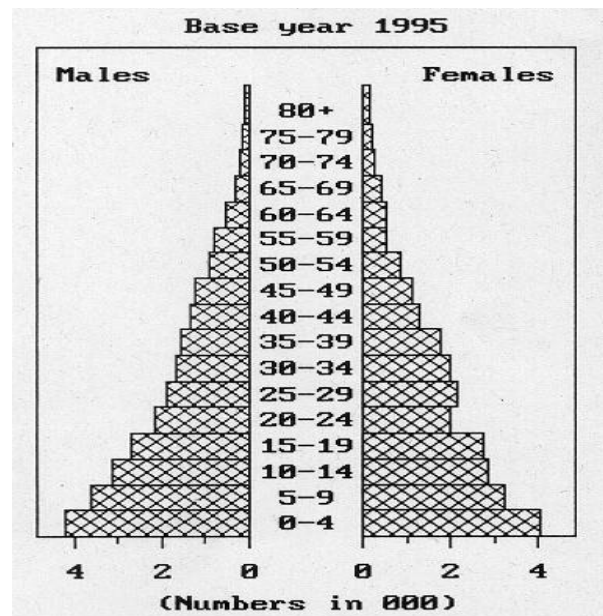
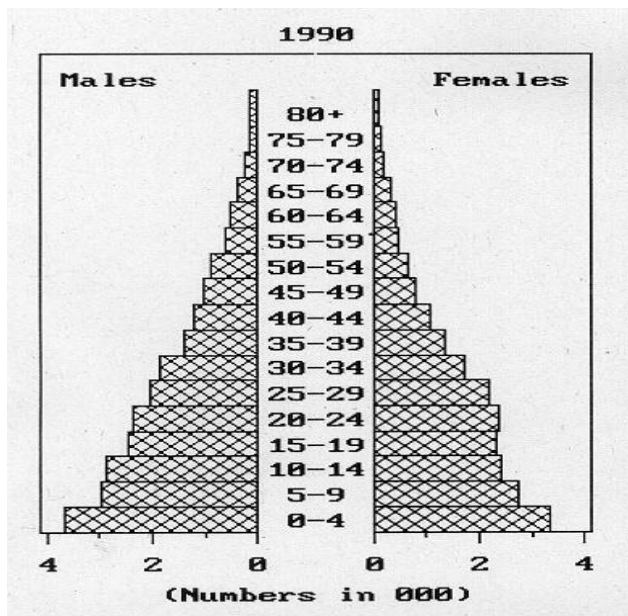
### Age and sex distribution

The sex ratio from the survey data was 101 compared to the 1990 census sex ratio of 106. In general, the overall sex ratio is determined from joint effects of sex ratio at birth, sex of deceased persons and sex of migrants.

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<sup>1</sup> Vital Statistics Registration data published in the 1996 American Samoa Statistical Yearbook.

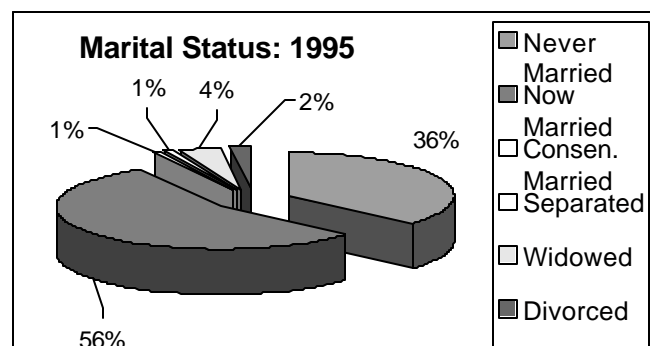
The age structure of the population is consistent with the 1990 distribution (i.e. very broad base indicating a relatively high proportion of the territory's population at young age groups. As provided in the population pyramids below (so called because of their pyramid shape), our population is young; recent births at the base, and narrowing width of the structure at older ages reflecting mortality. The sex distribution patterns reveal some features unique to the socio-economic profile of the islands. The excessive number of males and females in 20 to 29 ages reflects the likelihood of age selective migration particularly the economically active age groups.



The median age for the population is 19.9 years, a slight drop from the 1990 median of 20.9 years. Recent births; those 0 to 4 years accounted for about 16 percent of the population, while those in school ages (5 to 19 years) accounted for 35 percent of the population. Those 60 years and over accounted for only 6 percent of the population. The dependency ratio (non-economically active over the economically active ages) is 84; meaning that there are 84 dependants for every 100 economically active adults.

### Marital status

Similar questions on marital status at the 1990 census, (except the inclusion of the consensual married category) were asked of in the 1995 household survey. About 56 percent of all person 15 years and over were married in 1995 compared to about 54 percent in 1990. On the other hand, the proportion never married dropped from 39 percent in 1990 to 36 percent in 1995.



Single males outnumbered females by a ratio of 1.14 to 1. Close to three times as many female

divorcees and almost six times as many female widows were reported in the survey. The wide difference in male and female categories is because of higher life expectancy in females particularly in older ages. Although concensual marriages were not reported separately in 1990, close to 300 cases (1 percent) were reported in the 1995 survey.

## Religion

Religion like the ‘Matai’ title, is one of the non-census items included in the 1995 household survey, not just because of the demand (mostly religious groups) for religious affiliation data, but also the importance of religion as an integral element of our everyday life. This issue has only been asked twice; first in the 1974 Census of American Samoa and now with the 1995 household survey.

The question “What is your religion?” was asked of each person and the statement given was accepted as true. The larger congregations shown with abbreviations, were recorded in the space provided in the 1974 census, e.g., Congregational (CC), Catholic (RC), Methodist (M), or Mormon (LDS), while religion was an open-ended question in the 1995 survey. A person with a religion not listed in 1974 was written in the space provided. When a person says he or she has no religion, “None” was given, and if a person did not wish to answer the question, “Refuse” was recorded. Children may be assumed to have the religion of the head of household or parent/guardian unless questioning indicates otherwise.

The table gives the distribution of the population by religious affiliation and the magnitude of change in absolute numbers between 1974 and 1995. The Congregation Christian Church continued to hold most of the population for over 20 years (about 16,400 in 1974 and 21,500 in 1995). However, the proportionate distributions of religious affiliation have changed significantly in the same period. For

Religious Affiliation	1974	1995
Total	29,190	52,883
Congregation Christian Church	16,427	21,476
Roman Catholics	5,897	10,254
Methodist	2,029	4,404
Seventh Day Adventist	603	1,544
Church of Jesus Christ of LDS	2,399	6,604
Assembly of God	..	4,363
Others Religions	1,610	4,124
No Religion	121	114
Not Stated/Refused	104	0

instance, the Congregation Christian Church held 56 percent of the population in 1974, now holding 41 percent. Likewise, Roman Catholics had 20 percent of the population in 1974; now has 19 percent. The Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints has about 6,600 population or 12 percent in

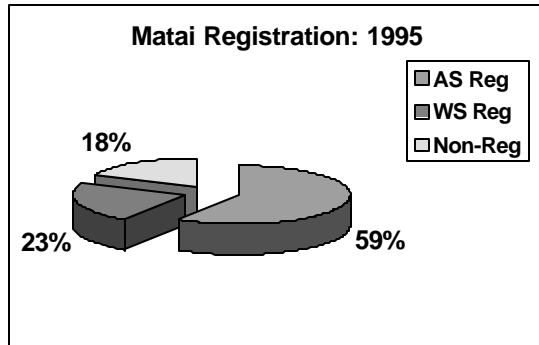
1995 (increase from 2,400 in 1974) and is the fastest growing religion in the territory. Although the Assembly of God had over 4,000 population in 1995, the lack of separate identification in 1974 made it impossible to determine its trend. However, in absolute numbers, this is also one of the fastest growing religion in the territory. About 14 religious denominations were identified separately in the 1995 household survey.

## Matai

The question on ‘Matai’ was somewhat different between the two investigations. In the 1974 census, persons enumerated who held matai titles were marked “M”, the title name written in the space provided and the country in which the title belongs to was written as “AS” for American

Samoa and “WS” for Western Samoa. Untitled persons were shown as “UT” and the title name of their matai head written in the space provided along with the country where the title of their matai belonged to. For persons who did not live in an aiga headed by a matai or who did not recognize a matai as head of the family was mark “No Matai” in the “Matai Name” space.

The 1995 survey specifically asked for Matai title and registration. If a person responded yes that he/she is a ‘Matai’, then the country where the title is registered at is asked, i.e. American Samoa or Western Samoa. The issue of title ownership and belonging were not asked. If a person is not a ‘Matai’ then the response will be no. Although these subject matter differences do not allow for any direct comparisons of the two data sets, there is enough data to draw parallel conclusions about the number of ‘Matai’ in the territory.



In the 1974 census, about 1,450 ‘Matai’ were identified, compared to 2,662 in 1995. Close to 60 percent of those with ‘Matai’ titles in 1995 were registered in American Samoan and 23 percent registered in Western Samoa. Another 18 percent ‘Matai’ were not registered. Of the 2,662 ‘Matai’, about 85 percent were head of households.

## Race and ethnicity

Although Race is not a specific question in local censuses and surveys, the question on Ethnicity allowed for self-identification of persons either by their race or ethnic origins. For instance, response categories included race such as White, Black, Hispanic etc; ethnic origins such as Samoans, Tongans, Fijians etc; and Multiple Ethnic Groups such as Samoan/Asian or White/Samoan etc.

The ethnic composition of the population is predominantly Samoans (92 percent). The next largest single ethnic group is Tongans with about 2 percent, while Asians

accounted for 1.5 percent of the population. The largest single Asian Ethnic Group is Filipino followed by Koreans. Multiple Ethnic Groups accounted for about 2 percent of the population.

Race/Ethnic Origin	Total	Male	Female
Samoans	48,896	24,419	24,476
Tongans	1,050	530	520
Other Pacific Islands	281	183	99
Asians	790	442	349
Other Single Race/Ethnic	967	556	410
Multiple Ethnic Groups	900	499	401

## Citizenship

Over 38,000 persons were either Citizens or Nationals of the United States. About 13,000 were permanent residents of the territory and over 2,000 were temporary residents. In total, 32 percent of the American Samoa population are aliens<sup>2</sup>. Of the 38,048 United States Citizens or Nationals, 89 percent were born in American Samoa, 7 percent born in the United States and other US territories and less than a percent born abroad of US parent(s). About 4 percent became nationals through the

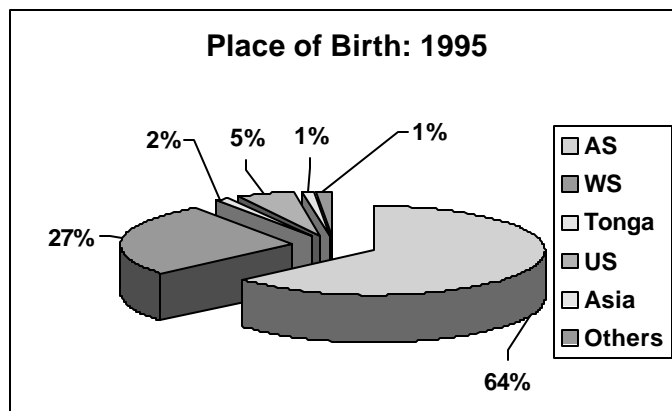
<sup>2</sup> Alien is defined as persons who are not nationals or citizens of the United States of America.

One Parent Law while less than a percent are citizens though the process of naturalization. The One Parent Law category was not identified separately in the 1990 census due to content specifications relevant for all US territories. In addition, this issue applied to American Samoa only.

The significant changes in absolute numbers in both American Samoan born and Non-US Citizen or national, reflected the trio-effect of migration, fertility and law, in particular, mid-ages and child bearing ages. The increase in the percentage of those born in American Samoa is correlated with the proportion of those ages 0 to 4 years reflected in the age-sex distributions as long-term migrants settled here. Likewise, the drop in Non-US Citizen/National is probably due to outward migration, but most likely due to those who have changed their national status with the passage of the One Parent Law.

Citizenship	1990	1995
US Citizen/National	29,742	38,048
Born in Am. Samoa	25,573	33,722
Born in US or Territory	3,543	2,808
Born Abroad US Parents	455	73
One Parent Law	..	1,305
Naturalize Citizen	171	140
Non US Citizen/National	17,031	14,836
Permanent Residents	15,529	12,589
Temporary Residents	1,502	2,246

### Place of birth



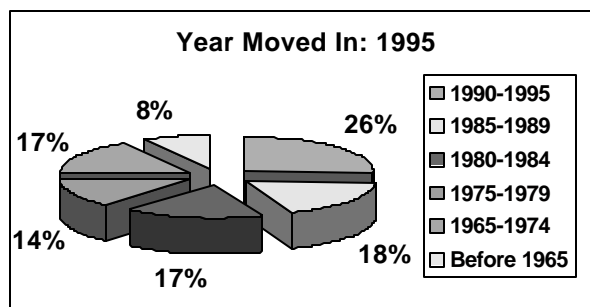
Migration can be measured in a lot of ways. For instance place of birth of the population, parental birthplaces, year of entry, residents one year ago and resident five years ago (long term migrants). These questions and reasons for migration were asked in the 1990 census and the 1995 survey, to get a better understanding of the migration issue in American Samoa.

Based on place or country of birth, the proportion of the American Samoan born

has gone up from 55 percent in 1990 to 64 in 1995, in contrast to the decline of the Western Samoan born from 31 percent to 27 percent. Like the Western Samoa born, the Tongan born proportion also dropped from 3 to 2 percent.

The 1995 distributions reflected the impact of age selective migration of the past, particularly those in child bearing ages which contributed to the 9 percentage points increase of the American Samoan born, and a drop in the rest of the birthplace categories.

### Year moved into American Samoa



Of the almost 20,000 persons born outside of American Samoa, nearly 5,000 of them migrated into American Samoa in the past five years. Likewise, another 3,500 persons arrived five years before the census of 1990. In total, over 8,000 (44 percent) of all migrants moved into American Samoa in the last 10 years. Another 17 percent moved in five years after the 1980 census and 14

percent before the 1980 census.

### **Parental birthplace**

Over 50 percent of all persons with mothers or fathers born in Western Samoa, while about 40 percent with mothers or fathers born in American Samoa. These distributions have gone up since the 1990 census particularly for those with American Samoa born fathers (increase by 3 percentage points. Those with Tongan and US born parents have dropped by one percentage point respectively in the same period.

### **Residence five years ago**

Long term migration is measured by place of residence five years before the census and in this case the 1995 household survey. Of those 5 years and over in 1995, almost 4,000 (9 percent of the population lived outside American Samoa five years before the survey. The number of persons who lived in the US and Western Samoa were equally the same (over 1,500 each), indicating a continued return- migration flow

	1990	1995
Persons 5 years and over	39,821	44,600
Same house 5 yrs ago	30,759	35,308
Different house 5 yrs ago	2,763	5,340
Same county	1,152	2,527
Different county	1,611	2,813
Outside American Samoa	6,299	3,952
United States	1,781	1,638
Western Samoa	3,415	1,534
Elsewhere	1,103	780

from the United States. Compared to the 1990 census, the number of those who lived in Western Samoa in 1985 was twice as many as those who lived in the United States. Whereas in the 1995 survey, there were more people who used to live in the US five years ago now residing in American Samoa than Western Samoa.

Internal movement within American Samoa is also occurring as shown by those residing in the same house or in a different house in 1995. For those residing in a different house, the question on residence in the same county or a different county was asked. In 1995, although there is a high percent of those who lived in the same house five years before the survey, 20 percent of the population have moved, and almost 3,000 of those who moved had moved to a different county. The level of movement (both internal and international) is twice as much in 1990 than in 1985.

### **Reasons for migration**

A question on reason for migration was asked for those born outside American Samoa. Usually people moved because of economic reasons and socio-political stability of a country. This is not the case in American Samoa where the number one reason for those moved here was to visit family/relatives or vacationing (24 percent of persons born outside American Samoa). Second to the Visit Family category is also family

Reason for Migration	1995
Persons born outside American Samoa	19,162
Employment	3,037
Spouse of employed persons	790
Dependent of employed persons	2,574
Family subsistence	3,354
Family business/agriculture	957
Missionary activities	900
Medical reasons	99
Visiting/vacationing	4,685
Other reasons	2,766

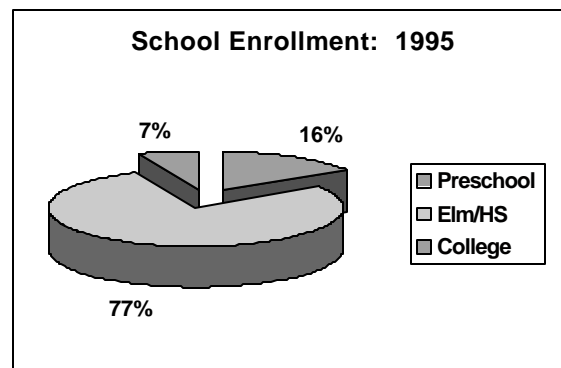
related (those who came here on family subsistence or commercial activities including agricultural with 22 percent). Those who came here for economic reasons came third with 20 percent while another 13 percent were here as dependents of employed persons. About 5 percent were here because of missionary work, and less than a percent were here seeking medical help.

### **Recent migration**

Recent migration, both internal and international movement occurred last year. Only about 1,600 persons crossed the international boarder in 1994. Of those persons, 650 were from the United States; about 570 were from Western Samoa and the rest from elsewhere. The data also showed a substantial internal movement. Of those who lived in a different house in American Samoa in 1995, 65 percent relocated to a different county.

### **School enrollment and educational attainment**

Questions on school enrollment and educational attainment were asked in censuses and the 1995 survey. Of the 19,521 persons 3 years and over enrolled in school, over 3,000 were in preprimary school while over 15,000 enrolled in elementary and high schools. These enrollment proportions have more than doubled in the last five years for preprimary, elementary and high school except for those in college which dropped in the same period. Over 90 percent of those 3 years and over enrolled in school were in public school.



Of the 22,199 persons 25 years and over, 8,429 (61 percent) were high school graduates. This is an improvement of about 5 percentage points from the 1990 census. Those with bachelor degrees or higher amounted to about 6 percent.

### **Disability**

The question on disability was asked of all persons 5 years and over. Of those 44,600 persons, only 983 (2 percent) reported some form of disability. In addition, disability in relation to labor force participation was also asked of those economically active. Of the 28,626 persons 16 to 64 years, 208 had self-care limitations and 577 had some form of work disability. Out of the 577 persons with work disability, 374 had disabilities that prevented them from working.

### **Labor force participation**

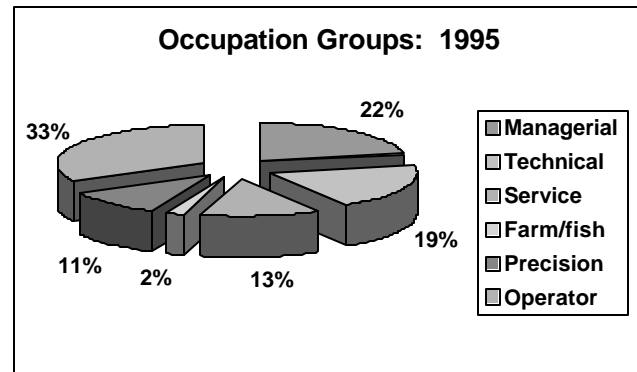
The total labor force in 1995 was 30,514, or 48 percent of all persons' 16 years and over. The proportion of those in the labor force dropped significant from 51 percent in 1990 to 48 percent in 1995. A similar trend is seen for the female participation where it's proportion in the labor force drop by the same percent. Of the 14,700 labor force participants, 13,785 (94 percent) have jobs or currently employed. The remaining 6 percent were the unemployed (those that are actively looking for work). The concept of unemployment as defined and used in the western context or developed



countries may not necessarily capture full unemployment in the territory since there are no federal/state/territorial offices dealing directly with unemployment compensation and job placement. Often cases the availability of new hires and filling for employment opportunities are done through relatives and friends already employed.

## Occupation

As expected, close to 4,500 workers were in Operators/Fabricators/Laborers occupations because of the canned-tuna companies. It is expected that this class of occupation will continue to hold most workers with the addition of the garment manufacturing business in late 1995. Another 3,000 were in managerial/professional occupations and about 2,700 in technical, sales and administrative support occupations.

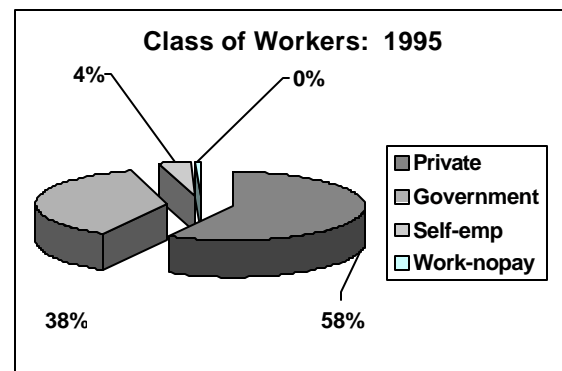


## Industry

Industry data shows a drop in the private sector employment particularly the main manufacturing industries, and a significant increase in the public sector, which presumably falls into the Professional and Public Administration Industry classifications. Employment in Manufacturing (Non-durable) Industries dropped by about 300 employees between 1990 and 1995. Again, these are sample data and should be cautiously treated.

## Class of Workers

Again the drop in private sector employment is seen in the Class of Workers categories. In 1990, close to 8,205 were in paid private sector jobs, whereas 8,000 were in the same category in 1995. On the contrary, government employment gained by about 800 workers (went up to almost 5,200 in 1995 compared to 4,400 in 1990.)



## Income

Income by type (wages, business income, etc) is asked of all persons 15 years. Median and mean individual income increased while median and mean household income dropped. Likewise, per capita income has gone up by about 7 percent (\$3,039 in 1990 to \$3,249 in 1995). Total income received by all persons' 15 years and over amounted to \$173 millions compared to \$142 millions in 1990. Income did not improved with length of residence for those who were born outside American Samoa. For instance, those who came in less than two years before the 1995 survey enumeration made more money than those who came in 5 or more years earlier did.

Household income is derived from summing income types of person's 15 years and over in a particular household. The median household income in 1995 was \$15,715; a slight drop from the



1990 median of \$16,114. Household size also dropped to about 6 persons in 1995 which means more nuclear families emerged and less people contributing to total household income. The number of households increased by about 27 percent five years after the 1990 census count.

## Housing Characteristics

Total housing units enumerated in the 1995 survey was 1,713, giving an estimated count of 8,908 housing units in the territory. This is a substantial increase in total housing units after the 1990 census in which 6,900 housing units were counted. It is expected that the growth in total housing units accelerated with the reconstruction of the islands after two major hurricanes devastated the territory in 1990 and 1991.

A total of 8,367 housing units were occupied in 1995; 6,906 units owner-occupied and 1,461 units occupied by renters. Only 541 units were vacant. Most housing units (7,519) are single detached with about 125 apartment units. Material for wall is equally divided between concrete blocks and wood (over 4,000 housing units each), while roofing is mostly metal.

Close to 6,000 housing units were connected to either the government water system or the village water system. Another 1,776 units are still dependent on catchment, tanks or drums for collecting water. About 2,500 units are now connected to the government sewer system while another 5,590 units used septic tanks.

Over half of the occupied housing units used LBG-gas fuel for cooking followed by electric use with 2,096. Over 7,000 housing units had refrigerators; 96 percent of units with refrigerators are electrically powered. Most housing units have electricity and a substantial number equipped with sink and piped water. Also, close to 7,000 housing units have television and close to 6,000 have telephone. Likewise, almost 6,000 units have radio. Only 764 (9 percent) have air conditioning and over half of the housing units have vehicles or access to a vehicle.

<b>All Housing Units</b>	<b>8,908</b>
Owner Occupied	8,367
Renter Occupied	1,461
Vacant	541
With refrigerators	7,239
With microwave	2,184
With sink with piped water	6,042
With electric power	8,258
With telephone	5,897
With radio	5,944
With TV	6,942
With air condition	764
With a vehicle or access to	4,633

## Emigration

The purpose of asking emigration questions was to get an idea of the magnitude and reasons why people moved, particularly to the United States. Obviously from the survey results, not too many families paid too much attention to these questions since the response rate was very low. Only 837 persons reported by their family now living outside of the territory. Out of the 837 persons, over half of them were in school and another 39 percent were currently working.

## Expenditure

Expenditure data were collected on three data capture levels. Major Household Expenditures with a reference time of 12 months (i.e. purchases received or paid for in the past 12 months) were collected on the main questionnaire. Regular Household Expenditures (usually with a reference

time of one month) were also collected on the main questionnaire while one-week of expenditures was collected with a separate Weekly Diary Booklet.

Tables should go here.....

## APPENDIX A: DEFINITION AND CLASSIFICATION

### Housing Unit Definition:

A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms or a single room occupied as separate living quarters or, if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live and eat separately from any other persons in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall. The occupants may be single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements.

In American Samoa, extended families make use of different types of living arrangements. Under one type of living arrangement, the extended family occupies several structures where the members of the extended family live. If the family members eat most of their meals together in one of these houses or fale, then all of the houses combined constitute one housing unit. However, if some or all of the family members eat their meals separately in their own structure, those family members live in a separate living quarter and each of the structures they occupy is considered to be a separate housing unit. If the living quarters contain 9 or more persons unrelated to the householder or person in charge, they are classified as group quarters. If the living quarters contain eight or fewer persons unrelated to the householder or person in charge, it is classified as a housing unit.

### Occupied Housing Unit:

A housing unit is classified as occupied if it is the usual place of residence of the person or group of persons living in it at the time of enumeration, or if the occupants are only temporarily absent; that is away on vacation or business. If all the persons staying in the unit at the time of the census have their usual place or residence elsewhere, the unit is classified as vacant. A household includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. By definition, the count of occupied housing units is the same as the count of households or householders.

### Vacant Housing Unit:

A housing unit is vacant if no one is living in it at the time of enumeration, unless its occupants are only temporarily absent. Units temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by persons who have a usual residence elsewhere are also classified as vacant.

New units not yet occupied are classified as vacant housing units if construction has reached a point where all exterior windows and doors are installed and final usable floors are in place. Vacant units are excluded if they are open to the elements. That is, the roof, wall, windows, and/or doors no longer protect the interior from the elements, or if there is positive evidence such as a sign on the house that the unit is condemned or is to be demolished. Also excluded are quarters being used

entirely for nonresidential purposes, such as a store or an office, or quarters used for the storage of business supplies or inventory, machinery, or agricultural products.

APPENDIX B: FACSIMILE OF THE 1995 QUESTIONNAIRE